

CHAPTER 553

(Senate Bill 792)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Wage Payment and Collection Law

FOR the purpose of repealing the authority of the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to assess a civil penalty against an employer who fails to pay certain wages; and ~~providing for~~ permitting the court to award treble damages to certain employees in certain cases.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 100 - Work, Labor and Employment
Section 94(f) and (g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1979 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 100 - Work, Labor and Employment

94.

(f) (1) Any employer who wilfully violates the provisions of this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, may be fined an amount not to exceed \$1,000.

[(2) In addition to the criminal penalties provided for in subparagraph (1) hereof, if any employer fails to pay wages required by and in accordance with this subtitle, the Commissioner, upon a finding of such failure after notice to the employer and a hearing, may assess a civil penalty against the employer and payable to the employee, of up to 20 percent of the unpaid wages for each day the wages were wrongfully withheld.]

[(3)] (2) Any employee who makes a false statement to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry or his authorized agent, or to any official or agency of this State, or of any county, city or other political subdivision of this State, with respect to any investigation or proceeding pursuant to this subtitle, knowing the same, or any material part thereof, to be false and with the intent that the official or agency investigate, consider, or take action in connection with the statement or report, is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not more than \$500.

(g) The Commissioner of Labor and Industry, upon written complaint by an employee of an alleged violation of this